

Find the ruins of the Grange

As you might have guessed, the name Monknash refers to the village's historical links with religious monks. The land here once belonged to what is known as a 'grange' – a farm run by monks to provide food and other goods for a monastery.

The monk's grange at Nash (now 'Monknash') was the richest farm owned by the monastery at Neath. It included hundreds of acres of the best farming land in Wales! The grange grew to become like a small town, with lots of different buildings all lived in and looked after by the monks.

One of these buildings is now the *Plough and Harrow* Pub, which is easy to find in the middle of the village. Other buildings that once belonged to the grange can also be discovered as ruins close-by. How many can you find?



Church: Just to the east of the *Plough and Harrow*. The Church is where the monks would have gone for prayers, usually at the beginning and end of each day's hard work on the farm.



Living Quarters and College: This is where the monks would have ate, slept and studied. These buildings can be found to the northwest of the pub, in the village of Broughton. (They are now residential properties so respect needs to be given to the residents when viewing the properties.)



A forge: Just down the lane to the west of the pub. This would have been used to produce metal items, such as tools for use on the farm.



A carpenters workshop: To the left of the pub. Like the forge, this would have been used to produce tools, furniture and building materials to support the upkeep of the farm.



Trout pools, dove cotes and animal buildings: These ruins can be found to the rear of the pub and were used to keep fish, birds and animals for eating.



Tithe barn: To the left of the pub you can find the ivy-covered remains of this once huge building – so large that the front porch alone now accommodates a modern house! The tithe barn was used to store produce that was given to the Church. Local farms would donate 10% of their yearly produce to the Church by bringing it to the tithe barn, where it would be stored.



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